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HUNS WEAKEN NEAR VERDUN

Latest Offensive Shows German Exhaustion.

Attack Dragged, French Had Time to Prepare.

(By Fred B. Pitney.)

Paris, March 16.—Complete repulse of a second desperate assault to wrest Le Mort Homme, west of the Meuse, from the French is announced to-night.

A Berlin statement earlier in the day had claimed possession of Dead Man hill and the repulse of all French counter-attacks aimed at its recapture. At the War Office to-night these statements were denounced as absolutely false.

Indeed, it would be difficult to describe the general jubilation in Paris over the latest news. The battle had been dragging inexcusably. When the batteries had not been able to destroy the thick mud walls and trenches instead of the customary rapid throwing forward of infantry, there was delay, as is the French had ample time to collect their forces. Even the successes that had been won were not followed up.

Observers see in this weakening attack a continuation of the Caudéran's army, with the terrible slaughter existing during twenty days at Douaumont and Vaux, on the one hand, and the Germans on the other.

There is room to move about the village, and the Germans are righted to see who should go first.

"We are just discussing where we should go," says Mrs. Drayton, smiling merrily. "We're, Edith."

"We're, Edith, we're going to have too much trouble to go anywhere."

"Exactly my case," says Lord Combermere, smoothing his already glossy hair and holding Edith, who receives him with a smile, and the two walk through the square I was dreading to be met with a Mrs. Drayton, is out of town, and yet here you are! This is such luck, and yet here you are!" This is such luck, and yet here you are!

"Seeing that you are still in it," he commences, smiling, but she interrupts him.

"If you," she says, turning the rings on her finger, and speaking in the most languid of tones—"have seen Lord Fane lately?"

"Lord Fane, I say, thoroughly."

"Oh, by the way, I heard—"

Then he stops short, as if he had been on the point of committing himself.

"You heard?" she says, turning his dark eyes fixed upon him with languid interest.

"I'm sorry, I say, that is what I heard."

He shuffles—actually shuffles—with his patient-leathered feet, and holds his hands behind his back.

"To-morrow, then, at eleven," he says, cheerfully. "And don't be nervous. Although the horses can't be relied on to hold out, the horses can."

The horses can't be relied on to hold out,

but I suppose that is what I heard."

Lord Combermere stretches on the sofa with a smile.

"I'm sorry, I say, that is what I heard."

Edith, as soon as the door had closed on their visitor.

"I do not know, I say, that is what I heard."

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BUSINESS, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL SECTION

MARKETS AND FINANCE

ONTARIO MARKETS

CROP REPORT UNFAVORABLE

But Still the Tendency of Wheat is Downward.

Stocks Better and Higher Prices Locked For.

(Supplied by Tomson, Forest & Co., Montreal, Rice Building) - Chicago, March 17.-Bad crop statistics in wheat, and is expected to from now on. The advance in May which led July is due to May being more heavily oversold than the trade was aware of. Wheat traders have been heavily long July and short May, and have been unsupervised, which has strengthened the most. Buying of May has been held sales in the market have been short days. Futures are short here, and the market has been well liquidated on the recent decline. In May, the price received were 14c per bushel, and the market closed at 14c per bushel. The short interest has been cut down. An erratic market is expected, but sentiment is low headed. Corn traders are lower prices, but bulls may purchase should be made on declines.

(GRAIN OPPINIONS)

Bartlett Frazer: - If crop damage reports continue as at present, higher prices for wheat may be expected. We do not look for any break in corn at any further decline.

Uphill Commission Co.: - We believe that we have had advances in corn, and a little more will be needed for a lower market, the balance of the week.

S. B. Chaplin: - Bullion corn now, we believe, will be the dominating factor, and that the market will continue to show an upward trend. Believe the corn future are in good position to advance.

Frank Barrell: - A trading corn market is in prospect. Oats are cheap compared with corn.

Harris Whithrop: - Our surveillance of the market continues of a nervous trading wheat market is likely with bearish ideas somewhat modified by claims of crop damage.

John G. Morrison: - Higher wheat market is anticipated. Until the local strike is settled there is likely to be little demand in this market for lower grades of corn.

Cahill: - Wheat, 2 to 5 lower; corn, 1 to 2 lower.

STOCK OPINIONS

S. B. Chaplin: -Santiment has naturally become more bullish. There was more outside buying yesterday than any day since the present upward movement began.

Harris Whithrop: - Unless some favorable developments, we look for higher prices to come.

John G. Morrison: - We look to see cotton doing better.

S. B. Chaplin: - Prices will be influenced by the amount planted for new crop, and possibilities for an early end of the war.

SUMMARY

Coupled with regular quarterly dividend of 1½ per cent, no preferred stock. No action on bank dividends.

House votes to repeat provision for frozen sugar and tanin in force.

Committee to advise to decide on mercantile marine troubles.

General Funston denies rumors which have reached Washington of a secret plan to send American troops generally toward Americans in Mexico.

Twelve industrials up 24; twenty active rail up 29.

WAL NEWS.

London, March 17. - Forty-four German ships have been seized by the Brazilian Government, according to the London Daily Mail. One vessel was merchantman, which had been interned in Brazilian ports at outbreak of the war.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS

(By Times Special Cable)

Liverpool, March 17. - No. 2 red winter wheat, spot, £10 5s.

No. 2 Mantua - £10 5s.

No. 2 Mantova - £10 5s.

No. 2 Durum - £10 5s.

No.

